

WEATHER FORECAST.
[Special Dispatch to the Transcript.]
Washington Forecast for Massachusetts:
DEC. 5.
Fair tonight and Sunday, followed by showers. Cooler Sunday morning.

POST OFFICE SERVICE
NORTH ADAMS MAIL.
Boston, East, and Northern New England.
Arrive 8:30 a. m., 12:15-1:00-3:00-4:45 p. m.
Close 4:00-5:00-11:30 a. m., 2:40-3:30-5:30-7:45-11:00 p. m.
New York City, South and West
Arrive 1:30-2:30-4:30-11:41 a. m., 12:00-4:10-7:00-4:30 p. m., Close 7:15-8:15-11:30 a. m., 2:10-4:00-11:00 p. m.
Canada.
Arrive 8:55 a. m., 11:30-12:00-3:00 p. m., Close 4:00-5:00-11:30 p. m.
Baltimore.
Arrive 8:30 a. m., 12:15-1:00-3:00-4:45 p. m., Close 4:00-5:00-11:30 p. m.
Readsboro and Southern Vermont.
Arrive 1:15-2:00 p. m., Close 3:00-4:30 a. m., 7:00-11:00 p. m., 11:30-12:00-3:00-4:45 p. m., 7:00-11:00 p. m.
General Delivery and Stamp Windows
Open daily except Sunday from 5 a. m. to 10 p. m.
General Delivery and Stamp Windows
Open from 7 a. m. to 10 p. m.
Carriers' Delivery Service
from 7 to 8:30 p. m.

W. H. GAYLORD.
SPECIAL NOTICE.
We have just made an important purchase of all
Linen Towels
From a leading manufacturer at a figure that represents one-half actual value.
This Includes
Damask and Huck Towels, Hem-stitched, Knotted Fringe and Fancy Openwork. Ordinary asking price, 57 1/2 to 62 1/2. You are invited to make your selection at 25 cents each.

25 Jackets
at less than
half price.

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Sole agents for "All Right" and "Volunteer" Steam and Hot Water Heaters.
WEEKLY
TRANSCRIPT
\$1.00
A YEAR.
NEWSPAPER ARCHIVE

OUTLOOK OF BUSINESS.
Further Evidence of the Rapid Renewal of Trade Activity.
GRAITTYING REDUCTION IN FAILURES
The Abandonment of Two of the Largest Combinations Additional Ground for Confidence—Others Likely to Follow.
New York, Dec. 5.—Dun's weekly review of the state of trade for the week just ending will today say: The classified failures of November, given to-day, show gratifying reduction compared with October, and are especially important as showing that the disturbance which swelled failures \$36,000,000 in August and September, did not prevent quick return to a monthly aggregate scarcely greater than that of May. Defaulted liabilities in eleven months have been \$198,738,459 against \$148,544,502 last year, the increase being only \$14,000,000 outside of those two months. The decline of failures to about 40 per cent. of the September aggregate gives stronger ground for the confidence so generally expressed. Ground for confidence is also found in the abandonment of two of the largest combinations by which the iron industry has been retarded, and the possibility that two others will be abandoned. Such a state of things suggests that these organizations, formed when depressed business failed to support all the works in existence, are not expected to survive a general revival and ample demand for products. The immediate effect of breaking prices is to check large buying of iron and steel products, but it will not be seen about where prices are still undervalued by steel buyers, and nothing is doing in rails, because the meeting shortly to be held will settle whether any price shall be fixed for next year. Bessemer pig at Pittsburgh is lower at \$11.75, and Grey forge at \$10, but there is large demand for vessel plates, both on foreign contracts and for the lake. Several thousand cars have been ordered, and numerous new buildings and bridges.

WORKING FOR ALGER
Michigan Friends Urge His Claim for Secretary of War.
DELEGATION SENT TO CANTON
Iowa Friends of Senator Allison Will Not Object If He Receives a Cabinet Portfolio—C. G. Dawes Calls on Major McKinley.
Canton, O., Dec. 5.—President-elect McKinley finds less time now to attend to his correspondence and devote to the privacy of his home than he did when the numerous delegations were arriving before the election. His callers now are mostly leaders in the policy and management of the government. Some it is believed come to urge the claims of certain friends to appointments, while others are called to advise in the selection of the cabinet or other important posts. The first imposing delegation in the interests of a cabinet possibility called yesterday afternoon. Some of the foremost men of Michigan visited Major McKinley to ask him to consider the name of Gen. Alger when he formed his cabinet. Gen. Alger's friends suggested him for the position of secretary of war. This delegation included President Angell of the University of Michigan, Col. Hecker of Detroit, congressman George A. Spaulding of Monroe and Col. A. T. Bliss of Saginaw. Major McKinley received his visitors in his library. Ex-congressman Brewster was spokesman. The president-elect made no promises. Members of the delegation said they were delighted with their reception. Congressman John A. T. Hull of Des Moines, Ia., was one of Major McKinley's callers during the evening. He is chairman of the committee of library affairs. He had a talk with Major McKinley. Lafayette Young and G. M. Reynolds, a Des Moines banker, accompanied Congressman Hull. They visited in saying that Iowa would be glad to have Senator Allison remain in the senate, but if he were called to the cabinet the people of the state would want him to consider the invitation very seriously. The officers of the eighth regiment of the Ohio National guard called on Major McKinley and invited him to have his picture taken in a group with them, which he did. The eighth Ohio is the regiment which is to escort Major McKinley from Canton to Washington. Charles G. Dawes of Chicago spent the afternoon and evening at the McKinley residence. He said that the only knowledge he had of the rumors announcing his forthcoming appointment as private secretary he had gained from the newspapers. He left for Washington last night.

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SEC. FRANCIS' REPORT
Operations of the Interior Department for the Fiscal Year of '99.
EXPENDITURES INCREASED \$1,000,000
The Actual Public Domain Is 1,349,072,537 Acres, with 600,000,000 Acres Still Vacant—\$146,000,000 Distributed Annually in Pensions.
Washington, Dec. 5.—Secretary of the interior David R. Francis has submitted his annual report to the president. The appropriations for the last fiscal year amounted to \$257,179,656. The estimates for the present fiscal year are about \$1,000,000 more than were appropriated last year. The actual public domain is now 1,349,072,537 acres. The public lands still vacant amount to over 600,000,000 acres, not including Alaska. About 85,729,751 acres have been patented to railroads and there are yet due railroads and wagon roads under their grants an aggregate of 114,738,539 acres. The total acreage segregated from the public domain was 940,319,100 acres. The secretary deems it desirable that our waste acreage should be taken up by actual settlers who should be given every encouragement, and says if the rate of settlement continues in the future as in the past but very little vacant land will be left in thirteen years time. He urges legislation for the preservation of the forests and states that a report will be submitted to congress by the forestry commission which has lately returned from a tour of inspection. Secretary Francis calls the attention of congress to the necessity of legislation looking to the reclaiming of arid lands and says that of the 500,000,000 acres of arid lands, 100,000,000 acres might be reclaimed by the conservative use of water, but it is impossible, under the laws now in operation, to control the reclamation of the arid regions as to prevent the improvident use of water over which the general government has no control. The secretary briefly mentions the difficulties between the Oro and Misouri Indians, which he states is a complicated one. No settlement has yet been agreed upon. The Pension question.
On the pension question he says that about 970,678 persons are drawing about \$140,000,000 per annum in pensions, and the branch of the service should be conducted with great care and discretion. It gives a table which shows that the total amount paid out by the government in pensions and the cost of disbursing the same during the last thirty-one years was \$2,034,817,709, which lacks only \$246,712,325 of being equal to the high water mark of the interest-bearing public debt. One hundred and forty million dollars is thought to be sufficient for the payment of pensions during the next fiscal year, unless pensions are increased by further legislation. The secretary recommends that an increase from 53 to 54 per cent be granted to all survivors of the Mexican war, who are wholly disabled and destitute. The Indians, he says now occupy about 85,000,000 acres of land, and they should be protected from the sinister machinations of unscrupulous men. He recommends that the Indian bureau should be conducted by a commission of three members, two to be civilians of different political parties and one an army officer.

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BAYARD GIFT FUND
Numerous Subscriptions Received by the London Newspaper.
CAN THE AMBASSADOR ACCEPT IT?
The State Department at Washington Denies the Proposal a Personal Matter, and It Meets with No Disapproval.
London, Dec. 5.—The Daily Telegraph today publishes three columns of interviews and letters on the subject of its proposal to make a present to Ambassador Bayard as a national token of respect and good will. The paper says it has received fifty more subscriptions to its fund for this purpose, including one from Sir Henry Irving, the well-known actor-manager.
A PERSONAL MATTER.
Opinion of the State Department Regarding the Gift to Bayard.
Washington, Dec. 5.—The proposition of a number of Englishmen, acting unofficially, to present to Ambassador Bayard at the close of his mission a substantial recognition of the esteem in which he is held by England, finds no expression of disapproval at the state department, where it is said that the matter can hardly be a subject for official cognizance under any circumstances now foreseen. Confidence is expressed that Mr. Bayard's long diplomatic experience will enable him to determine a proper attitude for himself as long as he continues his official relations with Great Britain as the representative of the United States, and that his own sense of propriety may be relied upon to dispose of the personal aspects of the case. It is, however, pointed out that section 1,751, revised statutes, specifically provides that no diplomatic or consular officer accredited to a foreign government shall "asked or accept, for himself or any other person, any present, emolument, pecuniary favor, office or title of any kind from any such government." As understood here, there is no suggestion that Mr. Bayard is to receive any distinction from a "government," but that the proposed gift will come from popular sources.
FOR MORE MORAL LAWS.
Washington Reform Bureau To Push Measure Now Pending in Congress.
Washington, Dec. 5.—The reform bureau of this city, which originated the Gillett bill, by which the last session of congress abolished divorce colonies in the territories and which reverts from President Cleveland the pen with which the bill was signed, considers the approaching session of congress especially favorable for the moral measures still pending, inasmuch as they regard the appropriation bills out of the way and financial legislation likely to wait for the McKinley congress. The measures which the reform bureau is chiefly urging are the Gillett bill to extend the anti-gambling legislation, which has been applied to mails and express, to telegraph; the Broderick bill, to raise the age of protection for girls to 16 years in the district of Columbia and the territories; the McMillan bill, to restore to this district its former law against Sunday traffic, which was invalidated by a clerical error, and the Phillips bill to appoint a non-partisan commission for the investigation of the problems of labor and capital.

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